

STATEMENT OF LANSING STRENGTHENS THOSE OPPOSING WILSON AND TREATY

TESTIMONY before the senate foreign relations committee of William C. Bullitt, formerly a member of the American peace mission at Paris, that secretary of state Lansing was opposed to the peace treaty in the form in which it was finally signed, puts a new weapon in the hands of those senators who are standing out for amendments and reservations and strengthens the position of the senators who are opposed to the League of Nations.

Merely to say that the American secretary of state did not approve the treaty in its entirety when it was made in Paris and has not changed his views since then is to repeat what was already well known. Mr. Lansing has not made any particular secret of it. He admitted as much when he was a witness before the committee. He also revealed that the American secretary of state, whose office entitled him to stand on an equality with the premier of Great Britain, France and Italy in the peace deliberations, was relegated to perform minor duties such as the other peace missions assigned to their under secretaries and clerks.

The startling part of Mr. Bullitt's statement is his quotation of secretary Lansing as saying that "if the senate and the American people knew what the treaty meant it would be defeated." That reveals a depth of opposition to the treaty unguessed by the American people. They had supposed Mr. Lansing merely disapproved the Shantung settlement and certain other features, but that he would not go so far as to reject the treaty in its entirety.

Mr. Bullitt went further in his statement of what Mr. Lansing said. He quoted the secretary of state as saying that the League of Nations covenant was thoroughly bad; that the large nations would pay little attention to the small nations and that the world had been arranged according to the ideas of the big nations at the conference.

That also is going far. Conceivably it will make good reading in the allied countries and arouse the choler of allied statesmen who participated in the Paris negotiations. What president Wilson's emotion can be imagined without difficulty, but he allowed 24 hours to pass before news of Mr. Bullitt's testimony was published broadcast, without making a statement.

One might suppose Mr. Bullitt possibly had misconstructed or exaggerated Mr. Lansing's remarks, although he said he made notations at the time for sake of accuracy. But Mr. Lansing gave the consent of silence when he refused to make any statement on Mr. Bullitt's testimony.

The public then believed the secretary of state had said what he was quoted as having said and the secretary tranquilly went to his office. Was he strange in the thought that he had thrown a wrench into Mr. Wilson's machinery?

Sensitors Hiram Johnson and William E. Borah, who are trailing the president and campaigning in opposition to his plan for ratification of the treaty and league covenant without reservations, will claim secretary Lansing is on their side, as he certainly must be, and their arguments will be measurably strengthened.

Furthermore, it comes out that Gen. Tasker H. Bliss and Henry White, also of the American peace mission, were as opposed to secretary Lansing as he was to the form in which it was signed. Mr. Bullitt said they expressed vigorous objection regarding the treaty and the covenant and that the expressions were not of an enthusiastic nature.

All this is not particularly surprising. It is the natural outcome of a condition. The American peace mission, with its members and advisers, ostensibly comprising some 1500 persons all told, really consisted of Woodrow Wilson, who asked the advice of his assistants and experts and then did not follow their advice.

But as a matter of fact, he did not follow his own advice, either. He had to give way here and there, making modifications and concessions, and if he were entirely frank, it is likely he would tell the west that he no more approves some provisions of the peace treaty than do secretary Lansing, Gen. Bliss and Mr. White. If he were to do that, however, it is sure the treaty would not be ratified. So, since he signed the treaty, he stands pat on it. One wonders whether he will require from secretary Lansing a denial or, as an alternative, the resignation of his portfolio.

The remarks of Mr. Bullitt placed home like one.

When a schooner goes down nowadays nobody has a moment's confusion about what kind of schooner it is.

As the world series draws near, two other leagues are distracting attention from the League of Nations.

Sensitors Borah and Johnson, having taken a strategic position, are harrying the rear of the enemy.

When change itself can give no more.

'Tis easy to be true.

—Charles Sedley.

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Small Irrigation Plants.

IT HAS been contended for a long time that farmers of west Texas, subject to drought conditions, were neglecting to insure their crops by storing water in small "home made" reservoirs for use by irrigation in time of need. In many cases these could be made with relatively small expense by damming up arroyos which carry water in considerable quantity after rains.

For years farmers have been urged to do this, either by combining or by working individually. In some few cases the advice has been heeded. In the majority it has not. In consequence it has remained for some of the oil companies of western Texas to demonstrate to the farmers what could be done in small scale water storage. Oil drilling required water. Wells often are not available and ever flowing streams could not be found. Then the oil operators built dams or constructed reservoirs and began impounding water just as though they were to use it for irrigation. They are showing what can be done and, if the oil wells some day cease to flow, the dams likely will remain for the benefit of nearby farmers.

Under permits that have been granted recently by the state board of water engineers, the following reservoirs are now available in Stephens county, for the storage of storm and flood water:

Gulf Production Co.—Overflow weir of concrete, four feet high on a natural rock dike in Sandy creek, a tributary of the Brazos, five miles northwest of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being 94 acre feet, or a little more than 30,000,000 gallons.

Gulf Production Co.—Overflow weir of concrete, nine feet high on a natural rock dike in Gonzales creek, a tributary of the Brazos, two and one-fourth miles southeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being 32 acre feet of water, or 10,432,000.

Sindair Gulf Oil Co.—Concrete dam, 10 feet high, across Caddo creek, a tributary of the Brazos, 15 miles southeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being eight acre feet or 2,608,000 gallons.

Sindair Gulf Oil Co.—Concrete dam, four feet high, across Caddo creek, a tributary of the Brazos, 15 miles southeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being 3,586,000 gallons.

J. H. Snowden—Earth dam 12 feet in height, across Gonzales creek, a tributary of the Brazos, two and one-half miles northeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being 25 acre feet, or 8,050,000 gallons.

Magnolia Petroleum Co.—Concrete dam three and one-half feet in height, across Gonzales creek, two miles southeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being six acre feet of water, or 1,956,000 gallons.

Gulf Production Co.—Earth fill dam, 37 feet in height, across Cottonwood creek, 20 miles southeast of Breckenridge, the reservoir capacity being 130 acre feet of water, or 42,380,000 gallons.

Some of these dams are of concrete, but others are inexpensive earth fills, and all of them have a rated storage capacity sufficient to provide water for considerable acreage, if filled by rains at ordinarily frequent intervals. They are the means of getting away from "fry farming."

If anybody needs convincing that El Paso county's few bad roads need fixing, bounce him around over one of them.

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Look Behind You, Uncle - - By Hal Coffman



Expert Joins in Campaign Against Johnson Grass Acting Mayor Fears Planes May Fall On El Paso

"I WAS pleased," said Prof. Hiram Hadley, of Mesilla Park, N. M., "to see the Herald's headline attack and editorial on Johnson grass. I consider the Johnson grass problem one of the most important before the residents of the Rio Grande valley. In many places the banks of the irrigating ditches are lined with it. The seeds from the plants fall into the water, are scattered over the land, and in a short time the land thus affected becomes thoroughly sodded with the grass. Near my place is a field of probably 15 acres so set with the grass that nothing else can be grown on it until the grass is taken off, and this is a difficult task, but it can be performed."

At one time I performed an experiment in killing out Johnson grass that I think worth speaking of. Near my place was a small piece of land owned by a nonresident, on it was a small piece of land well set with the grass. I cut it out with a scythe and I will tell how. I first plowed it and harrowed the ground well. Then I have a little tool of my own construction that I consider very valuable for exterminating weeds, etc. I will describe it. It is a little wooden sled about 20 inches wide and four feet long. The runners made out of two by eight inch lumber. Under the middle of this sled I properly fastened a good steel knife nearly three inches wide and hung about two inches below the runners. To operate the tool I simply ride on it and drive my horse. Soon after plowing the grass, as above, it began coming up again. Using that tool I cut it off; in a comparatively short time it began coming up again. I cut it again and I cut it three or four times. The whole process did not require over 40 days. I kept exact dates of cutting but have mislaid my memorandum. The operation was performed several years ago and since then not a spear of Johnson grass has shown on this piece of ground.

In open fields this operation is easily performed, but it requires time and some work, but the work will pay. But along fence rows and ditch banks the same kind of cutting must be done with hoes or similar tools, and the task is much more difficult. As a matter of self or personal interest let us organize and go to work to exterminate the Johnson grass.

There is little doubt that some regulations will have to be made before long regarding the flight of airplanes over the city," said acting mayor R. C. Semple. "Of course, there would be some speed limit ordinance, but it may be necessary to stop flights over the town districts and also to fix a minimum height, say 2500 feet, for the fliers to keep while they are over the city. Recent accidents caused by machines flying too low over cities have brought this question to the fore here. Of course, there is one great handicap about making regulations of this kind unless the city has its own airplane. It would be difficult to apprehend violators of regulations. No complaint have yet reached the council about machines flying too low over the city, but in order to avoid any chance of accident, it is probable that this matter will be given serious consideration before long."

"Range conditions in the north plains section were never better," said George Farmer, Potter county cattleman. "Heavy rains have fallen throughout the Panhandle country during the past summer and grass is fine. Feed crops are also reported to be in fine shape throughout the northwestern part of the state."

A discovery of oil in north central Texas has developed more than a dozen thriving cities," said Fred J. Swanson of Cisco. "The big gas fields in Eastland and adjoining counties have made cities of Cisco, Ranger, Carbon, Cisco and a half dozen other towns practically overnight. A few years ago the oil boom has made a city of almost metropolitan proportions of Fort Worth and has greatly increased the population of Wichita Falls, and scores of other towns of north Texas."

"I have known and felt fear as described so vividly by De Maupassant, that bloodcurdling, hair raising kind

which is accompanied by that feeling of helplessness and awe, and possibly in surroundings strange to one," said Harry Hopkins of Los Angeles. "My experience was in Tientsin, China, during the Boxer rebellion. I was a soldier in the United States forces and one dark night I was stationed as a sentry in the doorway of a warehouse. With the appearance of the first dawn during the long dark hours of the night, every little while I could hear the challenge of a sentry in some foreign language. Then a shot and the scream of a Chinaman. Then the Boxers were sniping at anything they could see or hear, preferably at the soldiers of the foreign forces of which those of the United States were a part. Thus the hours dragged slowly on and I hugged my doorway for fear of Boxer bullets. After a time I heard a slight glow, sliding motion. I grew very slowly more distinct and I thought, 'Imagination as to what it might be did not help me. I had heard more or less of the capabilities of the mysterious Chinese devils and my brain began to try to conjure up what on earth could be doing to me. I actually felt my hair raise my cap as the thing kept sliding toward me. With the appearance of the first streak of day a little courage of desperation after the hours of strain made me determine to investigate. A little reason told me the awful peril must be from within the warehouse in its black darkness. I had a lightning apparatus and I turned it on after getting into the building a little way. Immediately I detected the creeping, sliding peril of the Orient. The warehouse was filled with great bales of goods wrapped in common Chinese matting and a lot of them had been loosened in some way and were sliding, exceedingly slowly, almost noiselessly, to the floor."

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Will you please give me some information about Frederic Douglass, the negro orator—M. D.

A. Frederic Douglass was a famous anti-slavery orator. He was born and raised as a slave in Maryland. He married a negro woman. In addition to being a famous orator and writer, he held many important political positions. He died in 1895.

Q. What was the actual fighting time of the Dempsey and Fulton prize fight?

A. The actual fighting time of the bout was only 13 1/2 seconds.

Q. Can you tell me the maiden name of the mother of Jefferson Davis?

A. Before her marriage Mrs. Davis was Miss Jane Calhoun.

Q. Is there any likelihood of the capital of the United States being moved away from Washington?

A. There has been some discussion in regard to moving the capital away from the District of Columbia, but it is not likely that such a thing will ever be done. Aside from the enormous expense such a move would entail, Washington has been especially built and beautified with the view of making it the seat of the government in the United States, and well worthy of being the capital of the nation.

Q. What is the average life of a rabbit?

A. Rabbits live to be five or six years old.

Q. Is it unlawful to change an undesirable given name without going through a court?

A. A given name is only a means of identification, and is often changed without the aid of a court. A surname, however, remains the same unless it is changed by law.

Q. Can you tell me how to figure the baseball percentage of a given team?

A. In order to figure the baseball percentage, you divide the total number of games played into the number of games won.

Q. What is a tarantula?

A. The tarantula is a species of spider which is the most effective foe of the tarantula. It attacks the spider's back and penetrates its body with a sting. In a few seconds the tarantula is dead. The spider then deposits an egg in the body and buries it in the ground. The egg changes into a grub which nourishes itself upon the carcass of the tarantula.

Q. Where do we get the word "bushy"?

A. This is a Turkish word meaning empty. It was first applied to anything that was empty or trashy.

Q. Have scholars ever taken seriously the story of Atlantis as argued by Ignatius Donnelly, in his book of that title?

A. The opinion of scholars varies greatly in regard to the story Atlantis. The story of Atlantis is found in Plato's "Timaeus" and "Critias". Some regard it merely as the author's imagination, while others maintain that it is based on fact.

Q. Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Herald Information Bureau, Frederick H. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. Give full name and address and enclose two-cent stamp for return postage. Be brief. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.